
REACH - Fast Facts

Edition August 2016

EuroWindowor Information REACH

EuroWindowor AISBL

In cooperation with:

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REACH – fast facts

The EU chemicals legislation is introduced by the EU regulation no. 1907/2006 of 18 December 2006 concerning the **R**egistration, **E**valuation, **A**uthorisation and Restriction of **C**hemicals (REACH) since June 1st, 2007.

REACH with the changes in the CLP Regulation no. 1272/2008 differs in substances (chemical elements and their compounds), mixtures (means a mixtures or solution composed of more substances, e.g. paints) and articles (means objects which during production is given a special shape, surface or design, for example components).

Table 1 below provides an overview of the general obligation to register according to REACH, which must be performed by the manufacturer or importer of substances or substances in mixtures and producers or importers of articles.

Note: Producer of an article means any natural or legal person who makes or assembles an article within the Community. "Import" means that it comes from outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) (for REACH: EU+EFTA except Switzerland).

Table 1: Obligation to register according to REACH

Substances or substances in mixtures		
With obligation to register	Without obligation to register	
Substance or substance in mixtures produced of minimum 1 ton or more per year in EU, if not exempted from registration. (Some Substances of Very High Concern (SVHCs) are subject to authorisation.)	Exempted substances with known minimal risk (art.2, par. 7, letter a) Listed in Annex IV: e.g. linseed oil, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, argon, krypton	Unmodified substance which occurs in nature and without dangerous classification (art.2, par. 7, letter b) Listed in Annex V e.g. minerals (par. 7) e.g. natural wood (par. 8)
substances in articles/article (art.7, par.1, letter b)		
With obligation to register	Without obligation to register	
If substances intended to be released (as accessory function)	If no substances are released under normal or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use	

After June 1st, 2018 substances, which are subject to registration, must be registered immediately with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), if they are without registration. Otherwise, the relevant use and marketing is no longer possible in Europe.

In addition to manufacturers and importers of substances and mixtures, a distinction in **downstream users** takes place (recipient of a substance or mixture, such as painters, carpenters / joiners), recipient of an article (industrial or professional users, e.g., installers, and distributors, such as DIY-Stores) and consumers (e.g. end user), who doesn't have usually the need to registering according the table.

The regulation also provides restrictions of substances under the applicable Annex XVII. A substance listed there may only be manufactured, placed on the market or used, if it complies with the conditions of that restriction.

Another important aspect of REACH is the communication of information within the supply chain. Figure 1 gives an overview of the duty to communicate information of REACH.

For articles the communication of information based on the so-called "candidate list" is required for ratings from 0.1 % weight by weight (w/w). This in principle also relates to any article which is part of a product containing several articles (s. Judgment Court of Justice of the European Union C-106/14).

The candidate list of currently 169 very high concern (SVHC) - is published by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) on the Internet at <http://echa.europa.eu/en/candidate-list-table> and will be constantly updated.

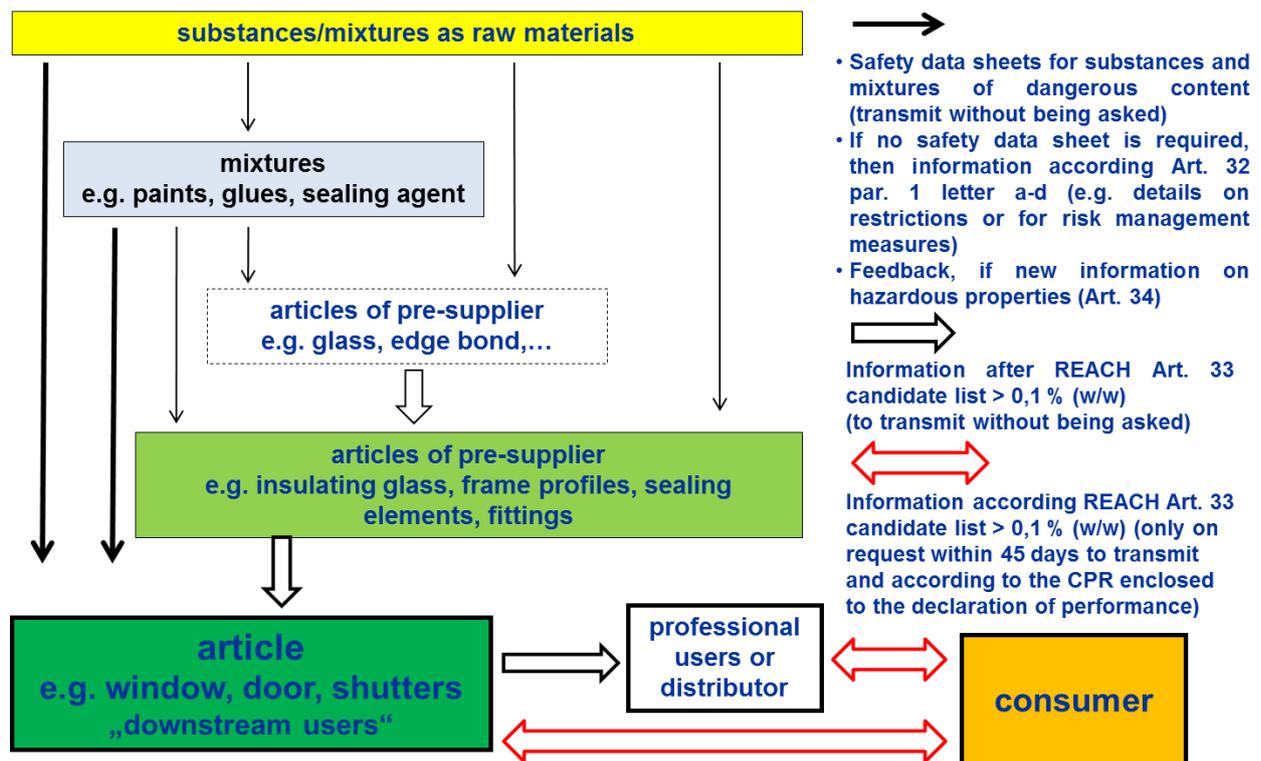


Figure 1: Duty to communicate information according to REACH

Duties and recommendations for downstream users

The "downstream users" have the following duties:

- Check if the substance / mixture is provided in the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the intended use. If not, a complement for the SDS by the supplier or the creation of an own chemical safety report is required, from a total amount of more than one ton per year (Art. 37 par. 4).
- Application of recommended risk reduction measures that the manufacturer or importer of a substance / mixture has declared in his safety data sheet.
- Duty to communicate the information according to REACH towards the customer, in certain cases, also to the supplier (s. Figure 1). For any article with a substance on the candidate list > 0.1% (w/w) and its safety use sufficient information are to provide, but at least the name of the relevant substance must be made available (Art. 33).
- Duty to notify ECHA on the use of an authorised substance from the list of substances subject to authorisation (Annex XIV) at the latest 3 months after first receiving the substance (Article 66(1) of REACH).
- Archiving of current Safety Data Sheets and grant the employees the access to the information (Art. 35).

Furthermore the creation of a list of substances is recommended.

Additional Information

For further information we recommend the following websites:

- European Chemicals Agency (ECHA): <http://echa.europa.eu>
- ECHA Guidance Documents: <http://echa.europa.eu/guidance-documents/guidance-on-reach>
- REACH Helpdesks of the national authorities: <http://echa.europa.eu/web/guest/support/helpdesks/>

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